

Message Text

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51

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 PM-09 H-02

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P R 101307 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8373

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBSSY BEIRUT

USINT CAIRO

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GER

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 3673

E O 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, XF, IS

SUBJECT: DAYAN STATEMENT ON SITUATION IN LEBANON

1. IN DISCUSSION SESSION MAY 9 WITH ISRAELI STUDENTS, DEFENSE MINISTER DAYAN MADE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS ON SITUATION IN LEBANON, POSSIBILITY OF SYRIAN INTERVENTION AND ISRAELI REACTIONS THERETO (FOLLOWING ACCOUNT BASED ON OFFICIAL SUMMARY OF PORTION OF DAYAN REMARKS PLUS NEWS REPORTS).

2. DAYAN SAID ISRAEL HAD BEEN EXERTING PRESSURE ON LEBANON SUCH AS BY RECENT RAID ON BEIRUT IN ORDER TO INDUCE LEBANON TO TAKE MEASURES TO PREVENT TERRORISTS FROM USING LEBANESE SOIL AS BASE FOR ATTACKS ON ISRAEL AND ON JEWS AND OTHER TARGETS IN THE WORLD. GOI WOULD CONTINUE TO EXERT THIS PRESSURE IN FUTURE. SO FAR, LEBANON HAD NOT REACTED TO THIS PRESSURE.
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3. COMMENTING ON CURRENT SITUATION IN LEBANON, DAYAN SAID THAT WHAT IS OCCURRING NOW IS NOT AN ATTEMPT BY GOL TO STOP TERRORISTS FROM ACTING AGAINST ISRAEL, BUT TO STOP THEM FROM VIOLATING SOVEREIGNTY OF LEBANESE GOVT AND ARMY. DAYAN ADDED THAT ISRAEL MUST NOT ASSUME POLICE FUNCTIONS AMONG THE ARABS IN ORDER TO DEFEND LEBANESE SOVERIGNTY. AS LONG AS SITUATION IN LEBANON DID NOT ENDANGER ISRAELI SECURITY, HE SAID HE BELIEVED ISRAEL WOULD NOT HAVE TO INTERVENE, JUST AS HE DID NOT EXPECT SYRIA TO INVOLVE ITSELF ACTIVELY.

4. RE POSSIBILITY OF SYRIAN INTERVENTION, DAYAN REPORTEDLY SAID THAT ALTHOUGH SYRIA MIGHT ALLOW TERRORISTS TO BE REINFORCED, HE DID NOT THINK SYRIA WOULD INTERVENE DIRECTLY. HOWEVER, IF SYRIAN ARMY DID MOVE INTO LEBANON AND FACE ISRAEL ON ANOTHER BORDER, ISRAEL WOULD CONSIDER ITSELF FREE TO ACT.

5. DAYAN' S REMARKS ON OCCUPIED TERRORITIES AND ISRAELI POLITICS BY SEPTTEL.
ZURHELLEN

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*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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